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at the close of the twelfth century Mr. Poole is disposed to attribute to the activity of Hubert Walter.

W. E. LUNT.

Cornell University.

PORTENAR, A. J. *Organized Labor: Its Problems and How to Meet Them.* Pp. vii, 134. Price, \$1.00. New York: Macmillan Company, 1912.

This volume presents an interesting discussion of the problems that are at present confronting the labor movement in this country. The author discusses under the headings of Syndicalism, Organization by Industry, Arbitration, The Strike, Insurance Benefits, The Apprentice and Cooperative Trading, the question that he has raised, "What shall we do?" The book faces frankly the problems of unionism. The answers show clearly the attitude of a large group of union men. The author is a union man addressing other union men and he points out a course of action that is midway between the conservative group that is at present in control of the American Federation of Labor and the radical group represented by the Western Federation of Miners and more recently by the I. W. W.

The book is clearly written and very suggestive. The analysis of Syndicalism and the chapter on Cooperative Trading are particularly valuable.

The author feels that unionism must be by industry rather than by trade, so that there may be complete organization and so that those whose wages are lowest may be included in the movement. But there should be agreements and arbitration. The strike should be a weapon kept ready for use, but seldom used. The syndicalist "desire to be free to strike at any moment they may deem opportune" is discountenanced as is its declaration of unceasing war. "In an age and in a country where education and the franchise are the guaranteed privileges of the humblest, I have abounding faith that the school book and the ballot will make unnecessary the rifle and the bomb" (pp. 12-13).

Some form of arbitration is advisable and necessary, but both parties should be equal. The various unions in an industry have not been able really to cooperate in the making of agreements. The boycott and the union label, the author feels, have been unsuccessful, aside even from the attitude of the courts, because they are difficult and expensive to maintain.

The suggested answer to the question is "that a great cooperative society should be formed, to be controlled and directed by the international unions" (p. 97). In this way the "real wages" of the working man would be materially increased, the unions would be strengthened because only union-made goods would be sold and many persons would be attracted because of the profits accruing to the union.

English unionism furnishes the author with his argument for insurance features, but he follows the conservative group in this country in opposing the English plan of "labor parties." He favors cohesion on matters directly affecting unionism, but for the most part independence of thought and action in politics.

ALEXANDER FLEISHER.

Philadelphia.